

transport needs, as well as national security needs, by constructing a National Highway from Ichchapuram in Srikakulam district to Tada in Nellore district via Kakinada and Narsapur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Medical System

3795. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical system on the pattern of the British model is followed in the country as a result of which the medical facilities are confined to cities and metropolitan cities only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Lentin Commission has stated in its report that heavy expenditure is incurred in big hospitals in the name of treatment for the poor people and they are not getting its benefit;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps for improvement in the existing system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b). A huge rural network of 132285 Sub-Centres, 21802 Primary Health Centres and 2401 Community Health Centres has been established throughout the country to provide health care services in rural areas. The model is as indigenous one and the States have been asked to make the service delivery system more responsive to the needs of the rural public through a vericity of overmess related to filling posts, providing sufficient funds for drugs and consumables and improving survillence activities.

(c) & (d). This Ministry is aware of Justice Lentin Commission which we set up by the Government of

Maharashtra. The report was submitted to the State Government.

Central Government has asked the States to see than there is greater allocative efficiency and the needs of primary health Sector are catered fully.

(e) and (f). Health being State subject, improvement of hospital services is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, to strengthen the secondary level hospitals in the State Health System, Projects are under implementation with World Bank assistance in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Karnataka and West Bengal. Besides this a number of National Programmes are being imple : nted with a view to controlling specific diseases and improving service delivery, particularly to those who lack access to health services.

Central Assistance for Indira Gandhi Canal

3796. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide Central assistance to Indira Gandhi Canal project under border area development programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount incurred so far under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Assistance of Rs. 250 crores has been proposed under Border Area Development Programme during VIII five year plan for Indira Gandhi Nehar Project.

(c) The Central Assistance for Indira Gandhi Nehar Project provided under Border Area Development Programme is Rs. 341.10 crores upto March, 96.

[English]

Admission in Medical Colleges

3797. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all medical students, who had cleared the All India entrance examination for admission to post graduate medical courses, have been given admission in medical colleges in the current academic session;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to alleviate the grievances of these students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (d). Out of the 1858 candidates declared successful in All India Entrance Examination for admission to MD/MS/MDS/Diploma courses 1996, 1650 candidates appeared for counselling and were given allotment letters for admission by the Directorate General of Health Services in March, 1996.

[Translation]

Fishermen of Gujarat in Pak Jails

3798. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of fishermen of Gujarat apprehended and kept in jails by Pakistan Government from 1994-95 to March 1996;

(b) the reasons for their arrest;

(c) the number of fishermen died in Pak custody and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their repatriation and the time by which they are likely to return to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) A list of fishermen in Pakistani custody said to belong to Gujarat has been sent by the Government of Gujarat. Some names in this list also figure in a list supplied by the Administration of Daman and Diu and said to be from Diu. Efforts are under way to clarify the position.

(b) Pakistan has informed that our fishermen were apprehended by them for violating Pakistani territorial laws.

(c) To the best of our information, no Indian fisherman has died in Pakistani custody during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(d) Government are actively pursuing with Pakistan a proposal to exchange fishermen in each other's custody. To this end, Government are in favour of holding technical level talks with Pakistan to address legal and administrative issues concerning the modalities of exchange.

[English]

Activities on Narmada Dam Project

3799. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received representations from several quarters regarding prevention of any kind of activities on Narmada Dam Project, which may cause displacement and other irreversible damage; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and the action proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from some Non-Governmental Organisations and individuals. Resettlement & rehabilitation measures for project affected families as well as Environmental safeguards measures are under implementation by the concerned State Governments.

Senator Brown's Accusation

3800. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US Senator Hank Brown wrote in an American Journal 'Roll Call' that India is responsible for arms race in South Asia;

(b) whether it is a fact that the senator had left New Delhi, without a meeting with External Affairs Minister, after his recent visit to the country; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Senator Hank Brown, in an article in the US Congressional Journal 'Roll Call', claimed that India's explosion of a nuclear device in 1974, touched off South Asia's nuclear arms race

(b) and (c). Senator Brown's request for a meeting with EAM could not be accommodated due to EAM's schedule. The Senator however, met with the Foreign Secretary during his stay in Delhi.

Action Against Principals of KV's

3801. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to retire Principals of Kendriya Vidyalayas compulsorily, whose pass percentage has been below 10 per cent during the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;